



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE: PROJECT CEASEFIRE
EAST LYNN, MO., FELON SENTENCED
FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARM

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an East Lynn, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for illegally possessing a firearm. Today's sentencing, Graves said, marks additional progress under Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

Brian G. Parks, 41, of East Lynn, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner this morning to seven years in federal prison without parole.

On Jan. 28, 2004, **Parks** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. By pleading guilty, **Parks** admitted that he was in possession of a Taurus .38-caliber revolver on June 9, 2003. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Parks** has two 1998 criminal felony convictions for unlawful use of a weapon and possession of a controlled substance and a 2001 criminal felony conviction for possession of a chemical with intent to create a controlled substance.

Parks was originally charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Nov. 4, 2003, in Kansas City.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Linda L. Sybrant. It was investigated by the Lee's Summit, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Project Ceasefire

Project Ceasefire, launched in October 1999, is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement and the Kansas City Crime Commission that targets for federal prosecution persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow